



U.S. EMBASSY JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN
Office of Public Affairs

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Press Release

USAID's Director of Foreign Disaster Assistance Visits South Sudan



Photo: OFDA Director Jeremy Konyndyk (right) meets with midwives at the UNMISS protection of civilians site in Bor

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Director of the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, Jeremy Konyndyk, traveled to Awerial County, Lakes State, and Bor town, Jonglei State, on April 16 to meet with people affected by the recent violence in South Sudan and to see firsthand the U.S. humanitarian response.

The United States is the leading donor of humanitarian aid to South Sudan, having provided nearly \$411 million in humanitarian assistance for Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014. In Awerial and Bor, this assistance is helping to reduce the spread of malaria, increasing access to safe-drinking water, constructing latrines and



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bathing shelters, providing education on safe hygiene practices, and reuniting families separated by violence.

While in Bor, Mr. Konyndyk met with government officials and NGOs, and toured the Bor Hospital. He also visited the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) compound, which is housing more than 4,800 displaced South Sudanese and providing critical health and sanitation services. In Awerial, where the largest concentration of displaced people is located, Mr. Konyndyk coordinated with USAID-funded partner organizations and other agencies to discuss strategies to improve service delivery for displaced South Sudanese.

“Providing humanitarian assistance to people in need in South Sudan is a top priority for the U.S. Government. It is important for us to know what impact U.S. assistance is having on people who are hardest hit by the conflict,” Konyndyk stated.

This week, leaders from the United States, the United Nations and the European Union issued a Call for Action on South Sudan urging an immediate end to fighting and unfettered access for UN and humanitarian organizations to reach people in need across the country. While in South Sudan, Mr. Konyndyk met with South Sudanese government officials and other donor agencies to stress the importance of the Call for Action and the urgent need to closely coordinate humanitarian aid efforts.

For more information on USAID’s assistance to South Sudan:

<http://www.usaid.gov/crisis/south-sudan>

<http://www.twitter.com/USAIDSouthSudan>

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